WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for reducing multiple organ failure of a patient after a polytraumatic event, comprising administering an amount of an anti-L-selectin antibody in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier to said patient, in the amount sufficient to reduce said multiple organ failure, wherein the first dose of said anti-L-selectin antibody is administered from 0.5 to 8 hours after said polytraumatic event.

2. The method according to Claim 1, wherein the first dose of said anti-L-selectin antibody is administered from 0.5 to 4 hours after said polytraumatic event.

3. The method according to Claim 1, wherein the first dose of said anti-L-selectin antibody is administered before said patient has any acute symptoms of said multiple organ failure.

4. The method of Claim 1, wherein the anti-L-selectin antibody is humanized.

5. The method of Claim 4, wherein the anti-L-selectin antibody is HuDreg 55 or HuDreg 200.

6. The method of Claim 4, wherein anti-L-selectin antibody comprises a light chain comprising an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2 and a heavy chain comprising an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:4.

7. The method of Claim 4, wherein anti-L-selectin antibody comprises a light chain comprising an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:5 and a heavy chain comprising an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:6.

8. A method for prevention of multiple organ failure of a patient after a polytraumatic event, comprising administering an amount of an anti-L-selectin antibody in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier to said patient, in the amount sufficient to prevent said multiple organ failure, wherein the first dose of said anti-L-selectin antibody is administered from 0.5 to 8 hours after said polytraumatic event.

9. The method according to Claim 8, wherein the first dose of said anti-L-selectin antibody is administered from 0.5 to 4 hours after said polytraumatic event.

10. The method of Claim 8, wherein the anti-L-selectin antibody is humanized.

11. The method of Claim 10, wherein the anti-L-selectin antibody is HuDreg 55 or HuDreg 200.

12. The method of Claim 10, wherein the anti-L-selectin antibody comprises a light chain comprising an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2 and a heavy chain comprising an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:4.

13. The method of Claim 10, wherein the anti-L-selectin antibody comprises a light chain comprising an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:5 and a heavy chain comprising an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:6.

14. A method for treating a patient who has suffered a severe polytraumatic event, comprising administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount of anti-L-selection antibody in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier to said patient, wherein the first dose of said anti-L-selectin antibody is administered from 0.5 to 8 hours after said polytraumatic event, wherein the first dose of said anti-L-selectin antibody is administered before said patient has any acute symptoms of multiple organ failure resulting from said severe polytraumatic event.

15. The method according to Claim 14, wherein the first dose of said anti-L-selectin antibody is administered from 0.5 to 4 hours after said severe polytraumatic event.

16. The method of Claim 14, wherein the anti-L-selectin antibody is humanized.

17. The method of Claim 14, wherein the anti-L-selectin antibody is HuDreg 55 or HuDreg 200.

18. The method of Claim 17, wherein the anti-L-selectin antibody comprises a light chain comprising an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:2 and a heavy chain comprising an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:4.

19. The method of Claim 17, wherein the anti-L-selectin antibody comprises a light chain comprising an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:5 and a heavy chain comprising an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:6.